

AN ELECTION RIOT.

Two Factions Clash at Byron, Ga., Over a Tie Vote.

AN EMIGRANT TRAIN IS HELD UP.

George Taylor Thought to Be the Leader of a Gang of Desperadoes—Negro Highwayman Lynched—Tramps Take Possession of a Town.

AMERICUS, Ga., Jan. 18.—For over 24 hours the village of Byron, in Houston county, has been in a state of riot. Four men have been shot and others held in terror. The trouble grew out of an election for municipal offices, held two weeks ago, which resulted in a tie. The town divided into two bitter factions, and charges of fraud were freely interchanged between the leaders. A second election was called for Saturday to decide the contest, and every voter was brought up to the polls. Not a change took place in the alignment, causing a second tie. The leaders of the factions were Charles L. Bateman and C. C. Richardson. Unfortunately, they approached the polls at the same moment, when a personal collision took place, in which shotguns were produced. Their followers made a rush for arms, and in a few moments the village street presented a warlike scene. The telegraph operator, who was a lady, abandoned her keys in terror, and for hours the outside world was cut off from communication. The arrival of the sheriff about dark restored comparative peace, but at nine p. m. the trouble was renewed, and at the ringing of the school bell the entire population was once more in the street. The sheriff succeeded in establishing his authority, but the feud, now started, especially since the election has to be held over again, is looked upon as one to result in further bloodshed.

AN EMIGRANT TRAIN HELD UP.

GUTHRIE, Ok., Jan. 18.—Highwaymen, whose leader is said to be George Taylor, murderer of the Meeks family, who cheated the gallows by escaping from the Carrollton, Mo., jail, held up an emigrant train near here yesterday and robbed the people of all they had. A dozen men were in the gang, and their plunder is estimated at \$1,000. The emigrant party was on its way south from Missouri and was traveling in wagons. The party was met by a crowd of desperadoes in the rough country on the west line of the Creek nation, surrounded, captured and robbed of everything they had. There were a number of shots fired, but no one was hurt, as far as could be learned. Among the emigrants were several who were very familiar with the appearance of George Taylor, and they have positively identified him as the leader of the bandits. They describe him most accurately, and there is little doubt that the man is the noted murderer. Posses have been organized here to go out and look for the bandits, and they are acting with the officers of the law in making every effort to locate the gang.

NEGRO HIGHWAYMAN LYNCHED.

WHITELAND, La., Jan. 18.—Saturday night George P. Beauvais was waylaid, robbed and beaten over the head by a negro in the Texas Pacific yards; the weapon used was a coupling-pin. Beauvais reached the hotel and gave a description of the would-be murderer. Before midnight the highwayman had been arrested, was brought before his victim and fully identified. The negro was then placed in jail, but at daybreak yesterday morning his body was found dangling from a convenient tree, where it remained for several hours. The coroner's jury investigated the case and returned a verdict of "death by hanging, at the hands of some unknown parties."

TRAMPS TAKE POSSESSION OF A TOWN. PERRY, Ok., Jan. 18.—Late Saturday night robbers took possession of the town of Newkirk, north of here. Saloons were robbed of all money and quantities of whisky and beer. Residences were entered and many things were taken out. Officers think the robbers came into town under the guise of tramps. Five tramps were arrested here for highway robbery.

A STRICKEN LAND.

Plague and Famine Are Rapidly Devastating British India.

BOMBAY, Jan. 18.—Plague and famine are stalking arm in arm through densely populated portions of the British empire, thousands of dead or dying, and the outlook becomes blacker and more terrible every day. Millions of hapless men, women and children are starving, and the famine stricken districts, having a population of nearly 40,000,000 people, will have to depend upon the hand of charity for food enough to keep body and soul together until April or later. Other districts, with a population numbering about 50,000,000, are already feeling the pangs of bitter privation from food, and this must be endured well on into spring before permanent relief will be afforded by nature.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—Lord Mayor Phillips has asked the American press to publish an appeal to the "junior branch of the united family" to show that same regard for the mother country feels, by contributing to the Indian famine relief fund.

WORK OF CONGRESS.

What Our Senators and Representatives Are Doing at the National Capitol.

THE chief event in the senate on the 11th was an impassioned speech by Senator Mills (Tex.) in favor of his resolution to recognize the independence of Cuba and to appropriate \$10,000 for the salary of a minister to the island. There was an informal discussion by several senators, but no definite action was taken. Senator Proctor (Vt.) made an address in favor of a constitutional amendment limiting the president's term to six years. The Pacific railway funding bill was defeated in the house by the vote of 168 to 112 and the army appropriation bill, carrying \$23,126,234, was passed. In the senate on the 12th Senator Hill (N. Y.) introduced a bill to make the terms of postmasters four years. The bill was referred. Senator Stewart (Nev.) made a speech against the re-election of the president of the United States and favored the shortening of the term to two years, so that the president would be in close touch with public sentiment. The free homesteads bill was then taken up and debated, Senator Peffer (Kan.) speaking in favor of the measure. Mr. Johnson (Cal.) rose to a question of privilege in the house and there was a wordy duel between him and Mr. McGuire (Cal.). The bill relating to the rights of aliens to hold land in the territories and a resolution to pay ex-Speaker Crisp's widow \$1,484 for the expenses of her husband's illness and funeral were passed.

THE opening session of the senate on the 13th was much curtailed by an executive session lasting two hours. After this the balance of the day was given to Senator Bacon (Ga.) who spoke on the power of congress to uphold new governments. In the house a number of minor measures were passed and then the bill to make oleomargarine, butterine and other imitations of dairy products subject to state laws was debated, but the house adjourned before the bill was disposed of.

DELEGATE FLYNN's free homes bill passed the senate on the 14th by a vote of 35 to 11, all the western senators, except Vest and Cockrell (Mo.) voting for it. Senator Cullom (Ill.) secured the adoption of a resolution calling on the civil service commission for information in regard to its reports. The senate then adjourned until the 18th. The house spent almost the entire day debating the bill to subject oleomargarine and other imitation dairy products to the laws of the states into which they are taken. The measure was finally passed by a vote of 126 to 76. The president's veto of the bill to create a new judicial district in Texas was laid before the house and referred. A resolution was adopted looking toward the preservation of the old frigate Constitution at Washington as a naval museum and the house then adjourned.

THE senate was not in session on the 15th. The proceedings in the house were uninteresting, the day being devoted to private bills. A resolution was adopted calling on the secretary of the interior to issue patents to lands sold by the Union Pacific in Utah. The widow of Gen. Gibson was granted a pension of \$100 a month. The free homestead bill was referred by the speaker to the public lands committee. Mr. Spencer (Miss.) introduced a bill appropriating the secretary of state to offer Spain \$200,000,000 for Cuba and appropriating \$10,000 for the expenses of the negotiations. The evening session was devoted to pension legislation.

TO USE CORNSTALKS.

Edwin S. Cramp Preparing to Start His First Factory in the West.

CHICAGO, Jan. 15.—Edwin S. Cramp, of the Philadelphia shipbuilding firm, completed plans here for the opening of a factory at Rockford, Ill., about February 1, for the manufacture of ship padding and cattle fodder from cornstalks. Before the harvest of the next crop it is expected that several factories will be erected in the corn belt and material which has been heretofore practically worthless will become a source of revenue to the farmers.

THE Agricultural Appropriation Bill. WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—The house committee on agriculture yesterday submitted the agricultural appropriation bill to the house. The total amount carried by the bill is \$3,512,422, a net decrease of \$102,780. An appropriation of \$150,000 for seeds was included, against the wishes of the secretary of agriculture. The system of meat inspection, says the report, should be extended, and the increase of \$25,000 provided in the bill for the bureau of animal industry cannot be reduced without crippling the inspection. The reductions in appropriations is made under the head of miscellaneous, including the weather bureau. The amount appropriated for the weather bureau is exactly what was finally estimated for, and is \$330,000 less than for the current year.

After Department Stores.

OMAHA, Neb., Jan. 15.—Populist papers in various parts of the state declare that the legislature should pass a law prohibiting a man from selling more than one certain line of articles in his store. The growth of the department store, they declare, will become so enormous, if not in some manner checked, that it will finally take in every conceivable branch of trade and render independence in mercantile lines an impossibility.

Allotting Agents Will Be Named. WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—The allotting agents for the Wichita reservation will be named at once. This does not mean that the reservation will be opened to settlement in the immediate future. On the contrary, it is expressly stated that Secretary Francis and President Cleveland have definitely decided that no attempt will be made to open the reservation before the close of the present administration.

Great Rejoicing at Perry.

PERRY, Ok., Jan. 15.—Perry went wild over the receipt of the news of the passing of the free homes bill by the United States senate. In this portion of the Cherokee strip every farmer is saved \$500 on his claim of 160 acres. Ten thousand shooting irons were discharged, and every whistle in town blew, and the people celebrated in a thoroughly western way.

Not to Be a Cabinet Member.

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—Cornelius N. Bliss has confirmed the rumor that he was not to be a member of the next cabinet, saying: "I am not to be a member of Maj. McKinley's cabinet." Further than this he would not go. He declined to admit that he had been offered a place in the cabinet.

FINANCIAL REFORM.

The Conference at Indianapolis Adopts a Platform.

Declares for the Present Gold Standard and Retirement of Treasury Notes—Executive Committee to Secure Desired Legislation.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Jan. 14.—The chief event of the morning session of the monetary conference was the speech of Congressman Fowler, of the banking and currency committee. The convention then adjourned to the afternoon, when the committee on resolutions reported as follows:

This convention declares that it has become absolutely necessary that a consistent, straightforward and deliberately planned monetary system shall be inaugurated, the fundamental basis of which should be:

First.—That the present gold standard should be maintained.

Second.—That steps should be taken to insure the ultimate retirement of all classes of the United States notes by a gradual and steady process, and so as to avoid injurious contraction of the currency or disturbances of the business in this, our country, and until such retirement provision has been made for a separation of the revenue and note issue department of the treasury.

Third.—That a banking system be provided which should furnish credit facilities to every portion of the country and elastic circulation, especially with a view of securing such a distribution of the loanable capital of the country as will tend to equalize the rates of interest in all parts thereof. For the purpose of effectively promoting the above objects—

Resolved, That 15 members of this convention be appointed by the chairman to act as an executive committee while this convention is not in session with the full powers of this convention. The executive committee shall have the power to increase its membership to any number not exceeding 45, and five members thereof shall at all times constitute a quorum of said committee. The executive committee shall have special charge of the solicitation, receipt and disbursement of contributions voluntarily made for all purposes; shall have power to call this convention together again, when and where it may seem best to said committee to do so, and said committee shall continue in office with power to fill vacancies until discharged at a future meeting of this convention.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of this executive committee to endeavor to procure at the special session of congress which it is understood will be called in March next, legislation calling for the appointment of a monetary committee by the president to consider the entire question and to report to congress at the earliest day possible, or, failing to secure the above legislation, they are hereby authorized and empowered to select a committee of 11 members, according to the rules and plans set forth in suggestions submitted to the convention by Mr. Hanna, of Indianapolis.

Resolved, That all resolutions and communications as to methods of currency reform which have been presented to this convention be referred to such committee when formed.

The report of the committee was adopted and the convention adjourned subject to the call of the executive committee.

MINERS KILLED.

Four Men Blown to Pieces by an Explosion of Giant Powder.

BOULDER, Col., Jan. 15.—Four men were blown to pieces yesterday afternoon at Ward, a small mining camp, situated 20 miles from here, in the mountains. They were employed by the Adit Mining Co., and death was due to the accidental discharge of 35 pounds of powder. In the afternoon, when the men had finished drilling a round of holes, they came out, and taking a box of giant powder, proceeded to load the holes. They carried the powder on an ore car to the place of operation, some 900 feet from the mouth of the tunnel. Five minutes after starting the car Manager Daniels was startled by a terrific explosion. Amid the pile of rock and timbers an exploring party found the severed remains of the men in a mass, unrecognizable and impossible to join together. The only conclusion is that, when the men reached the breast of the tunnel, one of them in lifting the powder box from the car, must have let it slip from his grasp, and precipitated the explosion.

NOTED CRIMINAL PARDONED.

One of Gov. Stone's Last Official Acts Was to Pardon Desperado Jim French.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 14.—Before retiring from office Gov. Stone pardoned Jim French, one of the most noted criminals in the west. When Chief of Detectives Desmond heard of French's release, he wired nearby cities his description, and later mailed a circular to all the chiefs of police. French is wanted by the federal authorities at DeSoto, Mo., for blowing open the post office safe. He secured \$1,800 in the job. He is also wanted at Walden, Mo., for cracking a safe in the post office, in company with Johnny Burns, and taking from it \$300 in stamps. He is wanted also in Iuka, Ill., for crooked work. Chief Desmond thinks he can convict him of complicity in the Pope's theater safe robbery in this city, four years ago.

TORTURED BY ROBBERS.

Bandits Use Heated Irons on a Young Woman to Make Her Give Up Money.

CLEVELAND, O., Jan. 14.—Last night three masked robbers went to the home of David Culbertson, a wealthy farmer, 75 years old, living near Wadsworth, O. One leveled a revolver at the head of the terrified farmer and his wife and daughter. The intruders demanded money. Mr. Culbertson gave them \$25, all he had in the house, and a check for \$50. The robbers thought a large sum was concealed in the house, and they proceeded to pull off Miss Culbertson's clothing and, with heated irons, burned and tortured her in a terrible manner, in the hope of drawing from her the supposed hiding place of the money. She finally fainted and the robbers left.

"UNITED STATES PARTY."

Gen. Coxe and His Followers Meet at St. Louis and Launch a New Organization.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 13.—Gen. Jacob S. Coxe yesterday afternoon called to order the conference of reformers who met pursuant to a call issued by the "commonwealth" leader for the purpose of forming a new organization to take the place of the people's party which he declares is dead. There were 23 middle-of-the-roads present, most of them being local lights. A resolution was presented declaring the action of the people's party leaders in the recent national campaign, in making the party merely a tail to the silver-democratic kite, has resulted in so crippling its good name as practically to kill its future usefulness as a reform



GEN. JACOB S. COXE.

party. The resolutions say that the new party shall be known as the "United States party;" that the initiative and referendum shall be the party procedure, through the American "trionomic" ballot system; and adds that the national provisional organization committee be instructed to proceed to organize clubs throughout the United States, these clubs to send delegates to a national convention to be held in Nashville, Tenn., July 4, 1897, to outline a policy of campaign for 1898 and 1900, based on a non-interest bond plan as a means of providing sufficient legal tender money to do the business of the United States.

A FREE FIGHT.

How a Colored Revival Meeting in Arkansas Results Fatally.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Jan. 13.—In a colored Baptist church at Yellow Bayou, in Chicot county last night one man was killed, another fatally wounded and several others badly hurt. A revival was in progress at the church. Rev. Henry Walker, the pastor, read a chapter in the Bible, and Deacon Austin Williams passed the plate for the offerings. As he set the hat containing a few small coins upon the pulpit, the preacher made a remark which Williams did not like and he slapped Walker in the mouth. Walker attacked the deacon, knocking him to the floor with a cane. A free fight ensued, in which partisans joined, using razors and clubs. Walker, with his razor, cut Williams' throat, killing him almost instantly. A negro, name not known, received a fatal cut, and about a dozen others were slashed more or less painfully. Several arrests were made, including Walker, who is under a heavy guard to prevent being lynched.

SHERMAN WILL BE PREMIER.

Congressman Grosvenor Confirms the Report That He Will Be Secretary of State.

CLEVELAND, O., Jan. 13.—Gen. Charles H. Grosvenor came to Cleveland yesterday from Canton, O., spent a few hours in conference with Chairman Hanna and departed for Washington. Gen. Grosvenor said: "Senator Sherman is to be the next secretary of state. He practically told me that himself the other day. I want to say also that Senator Sherman's appointment to the state department is not contingent upon the appointment of Mr. Sherman's successor in the senate. That does not enter into it." Speaking further, Gen. Grosvenor said that Senator Allison was not asked to take the state portfolio; that he was offered the treasury portfolio and declined it. The general said the new tariff bill will be ready for introduction at the extra session of congress, which President McKinley will call in March.

NO PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Speaker Reed Declares Himself Against Appropriations This Session.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Members of the house who have bills pending making appropriations for public buildings are much dismayed at the hostility of Speaker Reed. He declares that few of the bills now before the house ought to pass this session and insists that in the interest of pure economy members should let them remain unacted upon until the new congress shall come in. The Mississippi valley states have about \$10,000,000 carried in pending public building bills and the members take ungraciously to the speaker's ruling.

TRIBUTE TO OLNEY.

Ex-President Harrison Says the Secretary of State Will Long Be Remembered as a Capable Official.

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Ex-President Harrison came quietly to town yesterday on a business trip. He would not talk about President-elect McKinley's cabinet. When asked his opinion of the Venezuelan treaty, he said: "Secretary Olney has made for himself a record for ablest statesmanship of which he may well be proud. His administration of the office will long be remembered as that of a capable, strong official."

OHIO'S SENATOR.

Gov. Bushnell May Not Appoint Hanna to the Coming Vacancy.

A SPEEDY RATIFICATION URGED.

Dr. Talmage Preaches About the Arbitration Between the United States and Great Britain—Republicans Figuring on the Senate.

SPRINGFIELD, O., Jan. 18.—A close relative of Gov. Bushnell, whose name cannot be used for obvious reasons, makes the statement, about the authenticity of which there can be no doubt, that Gov. Bushnell, in so many words, stated to him that he would not appoint Marcus A. Hanna to the prospective vacancy in the United States senate. The governor and the relative mentioned had quite a talk on the subject, and the governor gave him to understand that Hanna's name could not be considered for the place at all. The relative further along stated to a local newspaper man that there was no doubt whatever of Gov. Bushnell's desire to go to the senate himself. He added that he was very ambitious politically, and that the present situation afforded him an opportunity to gratify a long-cherished wish, to get into the senate. In connection with the above, a number of Gov. Bushnell's friends are openly requesting him to resign as governor and then let Lieut.-Gov. Jones, who would be his successor, appoint him senator. To strengthen the above statement, if strength is needed, all newspaper men who have tried to interview Gov. Bushnell about Hanna's candidacy for the senate, know that he has always courteously declined to talk about it. In view of this fact, it is argued that if there was no objection to Hanna the governor would speak out.

A SPEEDY RATIFICATION URGED.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—Dr. T. De Witt Talmage, in his sermon Sunday morning, referred to the arbitration treaty in the following language: "The mightiest, grandest movement for driving cruel war out of the earth dates from January 11, 1897. The men who on either side of the sea did most to effect that plan of arbitration have made themselves immortal. The evening of the present administration of the United States government has been honored with the gladdest event of 18 centuries. All civilized nations will copy the sublime example. I implore the illustrious senate of the United States to allow nothing to interfere with a vote of ratification, that the bells of all christendom may ring out 'Peace on earth, good will to men.' Senators, many of you my personal friends, let me say this is the opportunity of your lives. By emphatic and enthusiastic vote, rise to the splendor of the occasion and win the favor of all the good of earth and all the mighty of Heaven. Let the 'Aye' of our American senate resound through all the capitals of Europe, and make all the arsenals and armories of the world hear that there shall be no more murder among nations."

FIGURING ON A MAJORITY.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—The republicans are more confident than ever of having a working majority in the senate for the passage of a tariff bill in the Fifty-Fifth congress. With every prospect of electing a republican senator in Kentucky and the return of Senator Pritchard from North Carolina, they will have a tie vote, with the vice president.

To Protect the Birds of Nebraska.

OAKLAND, Neb., Jan. 18.—At the annual state farmers' institute the subject of preserving the birds of Nebraska was discussed at length. The farmers declared that the law was indifferently enforced and that there was much useless slaughter. A committee was appointed to co-operate with the legislature and see what could be done.

Left Two Jars Filled with Gold.

SHARON, Pa., Jan. 18.—Judge Bassett, a Findley township farmer, died suddenly this week at the age of 87 years. He was supposed to be wealthy, but he left no will. Yesterday Dr. Yager was looking through some of his old trunks and came across two glass jars filled with shining gold pieces. The jars contained over \$12,000.

Illinois Treasury Empty.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Jan. 18.—Payment has been stopped by the state of Illinois on nearly everything except legislative expenses because the state treasury is empty and there is no money on hand with which to redeem the state auditor's warrants. Mr. Wolff returned to Chicago yesterday after turning over the empty cash box to his successor.

A Young Woman as a Counterfeiter.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Jan. 18.—The police believe that the leader of the counterfeiters now at work in this city is the woman known as the wife of W. L. Please, the counterfeiter sent to prison recently. She is a handsome woman, the reputed daughter of an Omaha politician.

Medal of Honor for a Kanan.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—A medal of honor has been awarded to Samuel J. Churchill, of Lawrence, Kan., late corporal battery G, Second Illinois light artillery, for gallantry in action at the battle of Nashville, Tenn., December 15, 1864.